MESSAGE

OF

GOVERNOR JNO. J. McRAE,

With Accompanying Documents,

RELATIVE TO

STATE INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS,

THE PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF THE STATE, &c.

DELIVERED TO BOTH HOUSES OF THE LEGISLATURE, ON THE 23D OF JANUARY, 1857.

JACKSON:
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GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

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th Senate and House of Representatives:

GENTLEMEN: On the 11th of August last, an act was passed by Congress of the United States, entitled, "An act granting lands in alternate sections to the State of Mississippi, to aid the construction of Railroads in said State, and for other purposes." This act grants to the State, "for the purpose of aiding the construction of Railroads, from Jackson to the line between the State of Mississippi and the State of Alabama; from Vicksburg to the Mobile Railroad within Mississippi; and from Vicksburg to the Gulf of Mexico, every alternate section of land designated by even numbers, for six sections in width, on each side of each of said roads." Also, "a like grant to the same extent, and on the same terms and conditions in all respects, to aid in constructing a Railroad from the City of Mobile, to New Orleans," so far as said road is within the limits of this State. And when the lines of these roads are definitely fixed, if it shall appear that any of the lands thus granted within the six miles on either side of the said roads, have been sold or otherwise disposed of by the United States, or that the right of preemption has attached to any of them, then an equal quantity of land shall be selected in lieu of these, by agents appointed by the Governor of the State, in contiguous sections or parts of sections, nearest to the tiers of sections above specified; but in no case to be more than fifteen miles from the lines of said roads, on either side, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior; and to be held by the State for the end purpose aforesaid.

The terms and conditions of this grant are as follows, to-wit:

The lands are to be applied exclusively to the construction of the roads for which they are granted—to be disposed only as the work progresses; and to be applied to no other purpose whatever.

Lands, heretofore reserved to the United States to ai
internal improvement, or for any other purpose, by acts o
or other competent authority, are exempted from this gr
so far as is necessary to locate the routes of these roa
these lands, in which case the right of way is granted,
the approval of the President of the United States.

The sections and parts of sections of land, which by
remain to the United States within six miles on either s
roads, are not to be sold for less than double the minim
the public lands when sold; and are not to be subject
entry, until they have been first offered at public sale
creased price.

The lands granted are to be subject to the disposal of
lature, for the purpose of the grant and no other. An
roads are to remain public highways for the use of the G
of the United States, free from toll or other charge upon
portation of any property or troops of the United States.

The lands are to be disposed of by the State, only in
ing manner:

"A quantity of land not exceeding one hundred and t
tions for each of said roads, may be sold; and when the
shall certify to the Secretary of the Interior, that any
twenty miles of either of said roads is completed, then a
quantity may be sold; and so on until said roads are c
And if the roads are not completed within ten years,
sales are to be made; and the unsold lands revert to t
States.

The United States mails are to be transported over th
under the direction of the Post Office Department, at suc
Congress may by law direct; and until such price is fix
the Post Master General is to determine the same.

I transmit herewith, the act of Congress making the g
the letter of the Commissioner of the General land office
to me, accompanying it. An act of the Legislature is
accepting this grant on the part of the State, upon the
conditions upon which it is made. Also, an act making
tion of the lands to the several roads for which it is grant
position of it to the several companies chartered for their
tion. To preserve uniformity, I suppose, in the action o
eral States on this subject, to which similar grants of l
been made by Congress, the Commissioner of the gen
office has forwarded to me a copy of the act of the Leg
Iowa, accepting the grant made to that State; and dispo
to the Company to construct the road, in aid of which it i
Accompanying this act, he has also forwarded to me a c
letter to the Secretary of State of Iowa, applicable in al
to the grant made to this, and other States, in reference
lection and location of the lands for the several roads

necessary for that purpose. I herewith transmit these pa-
the consideration of the Legislature.
ing can be done until the grant is accepted, and the lines
of the roads definitely fixed, that the lands may be selec-
ndocated. The action of the Legislature on this subject is
erable, both to the interests of the State and the roads, as
so the interests and convenience of the people, in entering
which are now withheld from sale, until the selections shall
under this grant.
my last annual message to you at your last session, the
and Ohio Railroad has progressed in track laying from
Lauderdale and Kemper county line, to Macon in Noxu-
nty, a distance of about forty-five miles; and the cars are
running successfully from Mobile to that point, a distance of
two hundred miles, affording immense advantages and facili-
to that section of the State, as well as the adjoining portions of
; and as I am informed with much profit to the company,
ness being even more than the road can well perform, with
ned available means of the company for running it; and
ing at the same time its construction. The iron rails were
the cars run through to Macon, the 4th of July last.—
at time, the track laying has not progressed to a station
that point, the company not being able as yet to make a
negotiation of their bonds to purchase the iron rails for that
os

stion of nineteen miles of the road bed, of this road, in
y, from Columbus on the Mississippi river, to the Tennes-
e, is completed; and the iron rails, will soon be laid upon
ption of it. The grading of the road through Tennessee is
ly completed; and a large part of the road bed finished, and
ness for the laying of the iron rails, for the purchase of
be laid in that State, Tennessee issues her bonds to be
d to the company, at the rate of ten thousand dollars per
every ten miles of the road bed made ready for the recep-
the iron rails.
oad only lingers in our own State. The link from Macon
ennessee line, is still to be completed, and is delayed for
t of means. The recommendation contained in my last
message, to give to this road as well as to the others there-
ioned, material aid by an increase of the revenue, affording
ppropriations for that purpose are still before you, and res-
y urged upon your favorable consideration.
our last session an act was passed, entitled "an act to pro-
the payment of interest on the Chickasaw school fund, and
r purposes," by which it was made the duty of the Auditor
lic Accounts to loan an amount equal to all moneys then in
Treasury," arising from the sale or lease of the Chickasaw
lands, or which might thereafter come into the Treasury,

from the sale or lease of these lands, to the extent of the
four hundred thousand dollars, in equal amount to the Mis
and Tennessee—the Central—the Mobile and Ohio, and th
Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Railroad Companies.
conditions in said act stated, one of which was, that in ad
the amount of the first mortgage bonds, or first mortgage
bonds, to be taken by the Auditor, from each of these com
equal in amount to the sum loaned to each, and secured on
property and effects of each of said companies, he was
also an amount of the scrip or certificates of the capital
each of said companies in four times the amount thus loaned,
certificates were to be issued to the State of Mississippi, an
the mortgage bonds, deposited as collateral security for the lo
the State Treasury.

It was further provided by this act, that if either of these
panies failed or refused, for the space of sixty days after th
sage of this act, to apply for its share of this loan, upon the
and conditions stipulated, the Auditor should divide and lo
share so refused, in equal parts, among the other companies
plying with its provisions.

The Mobile and Ohio, and the New Orleans, Jackso
Great Northern Railroad Companies, failed to obtain the b
of this loan, because they were not authorized by their char
issue their certificates of capital stock as security for a l
money, and could not, therefore, comply with this condition
act. Their shares, respectively, therefore, fell to the oth
roads—the Mississippi and Tennessee, and the Central R
whose companies did comply with the act. They have n
vested right in these shares, which cannot be taken away,
by a forfeiture on their part of conditions of the act, which
deprive them equally or alike of any portion of this loan, wh
not anticipated.

It was not the intention of the Legislature, in making this
to these several companies, to defeat either of them in obtaini
by imposing conditions, with which they could not, by their
ters, comply. The Mobile and Ohio Railroad Company was
desirous to obtain the benefits of this loan, but was defeated b
terms of the act itself. I therefore recommend, in justice t
company, that an additional sum of two hundred thousand dol
a sum equal to that received by either of the other companies
plying with the provisions of the act—be loaned to the M
and Ohio Railroad Company, in accordance with the pr visi
said act, omitting simply the requirement of their issuing,
positing in the State Treasury, their scrip or certificates of c
stock, as collateral security for said loan.

The New Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Railroad
pany have made no application to obtain the benefits of this
and, it is understood, are not desirous to do so. This compan

declined to receive its share of scrip authorized to be issued to
under the above act, and to be located upon the Internal Im-
vement lands. It has, however, continued to receive its pro-
share of the money paid into the treasury from the sale of
lands under the act of 1854, which disposed of this fund to
and the Central Railroad Company. Application is now made
the Central Railroad Company, with the concurrence of the
New Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Railroad Company, to
ansfer the entire interest of the New Orleans, Jackson and Great
Northern Railroad Company in the remaining unsold Internal Im-
rovement lands, under the act of 1854, to the Central Railroad
Company. I recommend the transfer, as the Central Road, which
receives aid, being completed to Canton, by the time the New
Orleans Road reaches Jackson, and the through connection being
made on both lines, the immense profits resulting to the New
Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Railroad Company on this
part of it completed, from New Orleans to Canton, will soon
enable the company to extend it beyond Canton to Aberdeen—to
the northern boundary of the State, and on to its connection with
the lines.

This road has progressed within the last year about twenty
miles in track laying, and the cars are now running successfully
about twenty-five miles above Osyka. In April next the track
will be completed, and the cars will run to Brookhaven, in Law-
rence county, only fifty miles from Jackson. I am informed by
James Robb, a director of the company, and charged with
the negotiation of its securities, that he succeeded in Europe, dur-
ing the past summer, in disposing of a sufficient amount of the
bonds of the company to realize funds to complete the road,
and put it in running operation to Jackson by the first of
January, 1858. And if the contractors on the line will complete
the work in time, the Capital of our State will be in railroad
communication with New Orleans by that date.

The line of this road from Jackson to Canton has been in suc-
cessful running operation since June last, affording great facilities
to the country, both in trade and travel, with handsome profits to
the company. No immediate available means, however, are
provided for its extension beyond that point.

The Central Road, which is a continuation of the New Orleans,
Jackson and Great Northern, north, has progressed within the
last year some twenty miles, and is in successful and profitable
running operation from thirty-five to forty miles south, from the
Memphis and Charleston Road, with which it connects a few miles
above the Tennessee line. Track laying on this road is pro-
gressing above Canton, and the assets of the company are suffi-
cient ultimately to secure its completion. But its progress is de-
layed for the want of immediate available means, and the difficulty
in the present state of the money market, in negotiating the bonds

of the company at reasonable and just rates to the stockho
This road, in connection with the New Orleans, Jackso
Great Northern, forms a main trunk line through the cente
heart of our State, and is a link in the great chain which, pa
through the capital of Mississippi, when completed, will co
New Orleans with the mouth of the Ohio and the heart of
great West.

The Mississippi and Tenessee Road from Grenada to Mem
is now in successful and profitable running operation to Com
Panola county, a distance of about fifty miles, is rapidly prog
ing, and in twelve months more will be completed to Gren
the ability of the company being undoubted for that purpose,
even having it in contemplation, after crossing the Tallahat
river, to run a diverging line down the valley of that and the Ya
river, to connect again with the Central road at Canton.

The Southern road, under the recent purchase of the Vicksb
and Jackson road, combining both roads in one, promises spe
progress to the Alabama line, and when completed, will be foun
be to the interests of our own State, one of the most importan
all our improvements, and a profitable investment to the st
holders. This being also a link in the great chain passing thro
the capital of Mississippi, which is ultimately to connect the
lantic with the Pacific, on the parallel of thirty two degrees.
commend all these works to the most favorable attention of
Legislature, and ask for all and each of them all the aid which
State has it in her power to give.

The Annual Report of the Auditor of Public Accounts for
past year, submitted to me on the 19th inst., shows the total amo
of receipts through his office from the 1st of January, 1856, to
30th of December, 1856, inclusive, from all
sources, - - - - - - - - - $823,190
Deduct amount received in scrip issued on account
Central R. R. Co., - - - - - 86,659
Actual amount received in specie, - - - 736,531
Amount disbursed for the same period, - - 825,562
Amount of disbursements over receipts, - - 89,031
Of this amount of expenditures, apparently so large,
the disbursements to the several R. R. Co.'s is, 420 700
The balance due to the Chickasaw School Fund,
January 1st, 1857, is, - - - - - 72,328
Balance due to the Internal Improvement Fund,
January 1st, 1857, - - - - - 40,978

This balance due these two Funds has been appropriated
is subject to be drawn by the several R. R. companies entitle
it, when they present the required securities.
The estimated receipts for the year 1857, from the
ordinary sources of revenue, are, - - - - $363,859
The estimated expenditures of 1657, - - - - 279,500

In making this estimate of expenditures for 1857, the Auditor marks that he has not "included the probable cost of printing and publishing the new code, or any thing on account of appropriations."

Documents accompanying the Report show the exhibits upon which these statements are based. Also, the amount of personal property in the State, from the assessment returns of 1856; also, the assessment of real estate, and the State tax, on the additional assessments on lands since the assessments of 1854.

The Annual Report of the State Treasurer submitted to me the 21 inst., shows the amount of cash in the Treasury, January 1, 1856, - - - - - - - - $249,306 90

The cash receipts into the Treasury for 1856, exclusive of railroad scrip, and including the sum of between four and five thousand dollars in Planters' Bank Bonds and coupons paid in as cash by the State commissioner, - - - - - 736,531 18

Total amount in the Treasury for 1856, - - 985,838 08

Aggregate expenditures for 1856, - - - 784,896 79

Cash in the Treasury January 1st, 1857, - - 200,941 29

Against this sum, Auditors warrants issued, were outstanding and unpaid, January 1st, 1857, for, 43,284 08

The law requiring the Annual Reports of the Auditor and Treasurer to be made to the Governor, makes it his duty to have them published only in the newspapers. As they show the condition of the finances of the State, and the Report of the Auditor especially, contains much valuable and interesting matter, I herewith transmit them with accompanying statements, that the Legislature may in their discretion, order such additional publication of them, as they may deem necessary for their own use, and the information of the public. A partial increase of the revenue will be required to be made at your present session, to meet the increasing annual expenditures, and especially the expenses incurred in the adoption and publication of the new code.

I herewith transmit to the Legislature the annual Report, to the Governor, of the Inspectors of the Penitentiary, embracing the Reports to the Inspectors of the Superintendent, Physician and Chaplain, with the annual account current of the Institution for the fiscal year ending November 30, 1856.

The report shows that the number of Convicts in the Penitentiary at that date was ninety-five, an increase during the year of thirteen. The health and moral condition of the convicts is set forth in the reports of the Physician and Chaplain.

The covering the prison portion of the buildings with tin, and repairing the house of the Superintendent, "which was in a breaking condition, and rapidly giving way," cost together about $1,200. This, with the expense connected with boring the Artesian Well, the Inspectors say, curtails considerably the amount of cash on

hand, which at the close of the fiscal year was $13,647 35—le $623 14, the amount of two protested drafts taken as cash, one which, for one half of this amount, will probably never be realize

To prevent losses of this kind in future, which cannot be pre vented while the business of the Penitentiary is, in part, done b agents at a distance, the Report recommends the establishment a single agency at Jackson, the agent to give bond, to be approve by the Governor and Inspectors, in a sum sufficient to cover an amount that may come into his hands—the goods to be sold at pri ces regulated by the Inspectors—monthly settlements to be made with them, and the balance, after paying the drafts of the Superin tendent for the current monthly expenses, to be paid into the Stat Treasury.

Appropriations are asked for the increase of the machinery—fo additional looms, and for the extension of the cotton mill twenty-five feet at the East end, which, it is represented, would produce much more with comparatively little expense, it being important that the factory should be extended, to give employment to the increased number of hands, which it is difficult at present to employ profitably, for the want of machinery, and room for its use.

Appropriations are also asked for the repair of the front building, which the Superintendent says, "demands immediate attention," the front and rear walls having both settled off from the building, causing the side walls to crack, and if not speedily repaired, it is feared will fall down.

Also, for the construction, in connection with this building, of a small, airy Hospital, it being impossible for the convicts who are sick, to do well in their cells; and to prevent their escape during convalescence, when in severe forms of disease they are removed to the front building.

No estimates for these purposes are submitted in the Report, but the Superintendent and Inspectors will doubtless suggest to the Legislature the amount required.

The expense of boring the Artesian Well in the yard of the Penitentiary, will in future be much diminished. It will be confined principally to the purchase of the materials used for the boring and tubing, the convicts engaged in the work being sufficiently skilled to prosecute it successfully, without employing a workman to conduct it. I herewith transmit a statement on this subject, made at my request, by Dr. L. Harper, late State Geologist, containing a diagram showing the different strata through which the boring had at that time passed, (17th Dec. last,) then about 330 feet. It has now reached to near 400 feet. Also, estimating the probable depth at which an abundant supply of water may be obtained, and the probable expenses of the work.

The report of the Inspectors concludes with the regret that the Legislature at its last session should have reduced the salaries of the clerk and physician of the Penitentiary to a sum inadequate to

the duties they are required to perform, and below the price which living and labor at present justify. And by their endorsement of the excellent management of the prison, by the present Superintendent. I respectfully recommend the various suggestions contained in the report to your favorable consideration.

No report has been made to me by the Trustees of the Lunatic Asylum.

Dr. Langley, the Medical Superintendent of the Institution, informs me that the appropriation of $16 000 at your last session, to repair the building and gas-fixtures destroyed by fire, has been sufficient for that purpose, besides furnishing an additional story to the building, amply sufficient for all the purposes of servant's rooms, for which purpose a separate house was provided to be built, under the act of 12th March, at your last session, appropriating $23.000 for buildings, salaries of officers, and all incidental expenses of the Asylum for the year 1856. This last sum, he also informs me, has been sufficient for all the purposes to which it was to be applied, except the building of the Cottage for the Engineer, and the payment of a debt of about $2,000 outstanding against the Asylum for some years past.

The last section of the act of March 1, 1854, "for the appointment of the necessary officers to take charge of the State Lunatic Asylum, and for other purposes," provides for an annual appropriation of $10,000, to be drawn quarterly by requisition of the Governor on application of the Trustees for the expenses of the Institution, including salaries and all incidental expenses. This section of this act was not repealed by the act of 12th March, 1856, above referred to, but the appropriation was not drawn under it for the last year, because both acts provided for the salaries of officers and incidental expenses of the Institution, and the act of 12th March, 1856, was to provide, among other things, specifically for these purposes for that year. This act having now expired, the act of March 1, 1854, is still in force, making the annual appropriation of $10,000 for the quarterly expenses of the Asylum, and in addition to this sum, it is estimated by the Medical Superintendent, that an appropriation of $15.000 will be sufficient for all the purposes of the Asylum for the year 1857, including the Cottage building for the Engineer, and the payment of the outstanding debt of $2,000.

The report of the Medical Superintendent, and Board of Trustees of the Asylum, will be submitted to the Legislature as an accompanying document of the message, as soon as it is received. As will also the report of the State Librarian, upon which no comment is necessary.

I herewith transmit the report of the Trustees of the Institute for the Blind.

This Institution, when it was taken charge of by the present Board, in March last, owing to the want of necessary appropria-

tions to sustain it for the previous year, was in a languishing, and almost abandoned condition. The Rev. P. Lane, under whose auspices it may be said to have had its origin, and under whose management as Instructor, it for a time flourished, was compelled to abandon it, because the means were not provided to sustain the school, and his own compensation not sufficient to support himself and family. The Institution was left with only five *bona fide* pupils, and an incompetent Instructor. Under the appropriation at your last session, the present Trustees were again able to secure the invaluable services of Mr. Lane, who has brought the school up to a state of greater prosperity than it had ever reached before. There are now eighteen pupils, and all the departments, educational, musical and mechanical, are in successful operation, all being under the control of Mr. Lane, except the musical department, which is under the direction of the accomplished musician, Mr. A. E. Blackmar.

The Institution suffered seriously by two several fires in the Spring of last year, destroying one of the buildings entirely, and but for the timely aid of the Jackson Fire Companies, the entire property would have been destroyed. A building has been erected to supply the place of the one destroyed, at a cost of $800, which the Trustees were compelled to pay for out of the $2,000 appropriated at your last session, to establish the musical and mechanical departments. An appropriation is asked to reimburse this sum. And in the present prosperous condition of the Institution, with the prospect of a continually increasing number of pupils, it is estimated by the Trustees that an annual appropriation of $6,500, will be required to place the Institution on a successful and permanent basis. I recommend that the appropriation be made.

The report of the Trustees of the Institute for the Deaf and Dumb, exhibits that institution under highly successful management, and in a very prosperous condition, under the valuable superintendence of the Rev. Mr. Pomroy, and his excellent lady, as Matron, with Prof. E. N. Bowes, as assistant teacher. There were fifteen pupils at the close of the last year,—others have since come in, and the probability is that the number will be doubled during the present year, if the institution is properly sustained by the State. The exhibit of receipts and disbursements by the present Board of Trustees, for the past year, shows a balance on hand, the 1st of January, 1857, of only $106 47-100—barely sufficient to sustain the institution to the close of the present month. The annual appropriation to this institute, is only $2,000. The Legislature, at its last session, refused to increase the amount. The school had been disbanded, on account of the epidemic the fall previous, and had not at that time been resumed, for the want of a teacher. Its condition is now entirely changed, and its present success commends it to your most favorable consideration. The estimated expenditures, by the Board, for the present year,

for the support of twenty-five or thirty pupils, including the present annual appropriation of $2,000, is $7,000, or an additional appropriation of $5,000.

The Trustees have now a proposition from Judge William Yerger, to exchange the buildings and lot of about two acres, upon which the institute is now situated, in the City of Jackson, for the buildings and lot of seventy or eighty acres, known as the St. Andrew's College property, situated about one and a half miles West of Jackson, by paying a difference of $2,500. Should this be done, the Board have estimated that an additional sum of $2,500 will be required for repairing and furnishing the buildings, fencing the grounds, and for farming and other necessary utensils. The exchange is a very desirable one, and should it be authorized by the Legislature, and appropriations be made for that purpose, the lot and buildings of the Institute for the Blind, might be sold for a sum more than sufficient to cover the amount, and this institution also be transferred to the country, the buildings, with slight additions, and grounds, being sufficient for both schools. The advantages of this arrangement would be, that the pupils would have better opportunities for healthful exercise, and useful out-door employment. They would be removed from the ordinary diseases and occasional epidemics, incident to the city, and the institutes would have a guarantee of successful and permanent existence. These institutions are all under good management—are noble monuments,—not of the charitable impulses, but of the ever flowing stream of benevolence, gushing from the hearts of our people, sympathising with these afflicted children of the State. I recommend that they be fully sustained. The exhibits and estimates of the Trustees are submitted, with their several reports.

To provide a fund, for aiding the State, in the support of these institutions, several intelligent and responsible gentlemen of Madison county, have proposed a scheme of Lottery, to be chartered by the Legislature, to raise the sum of $120,000, by appropriating 10 per cent. of the sales of tickets, or perhaps a larger amount, until the sum of $120,000 shall be raised, $60,000 for the Lunatic Asylum, and $60,000 to be equally divided between the institutions, for the Deaf and Dumb, and the Blind.

Owing to the increasing number of patients in the Asylum, and the increasing number of pupils in the two institutes, the annual expense of supporting these institutions, if properly sustained, will in a year or two more, be $40,000. I therefore recommend to the Legislature, the propriety of considering this suggestion. It is estimated that about $200,000 is sent out of this State, annually, to be invested in lotteries in other States, and in Havana.

I transmit, herewith, a brief and interesting communication, addressed to me by Mr. Thos. Green, foreman of Jackson Fire Company, No. 1, in the City of Jackson, relating to the interests

of the State, in the preservation of the public property from fire and recommend to the Legislature to make such annual appropriations to the Jackson Fire companies, as they shall consider the value of their services, or the value of the security which their protection gives to the public buildings and property of the State.

A Company has been formed, and will ask for a charter from the Legislature, for the purpose of lighting the City of Jackson with Gas, to be manufactured by an improved process, from rosin oil. The machinery and fixtures, I am informed, are now all procured, and the company expect to have gas made ready for lighting the city in three or four weeks from this time. It is proposed to light up all the public buildings with gas, and to aid the company in carrying out that design, they wish the State to take $5,000 in the capital stock of the company. I am further informed by Col. W. T. Withers, the President of the company, that about $15,000 in stock, has been taken by the citizens and corporation of Jackson; and that $5,000 more is required, to enable them to extend their pipes and fixtures to the public buildings. Should the State take this amount in stock, it is believed that the dividends will more than pay for lighting all the buildings belonging to the State in Jackson—the Capital—the Mansion—the Penitentiary—the Institutes for the Deaf and Dumb, and Blind, and even the Lunatic Asylum, should the pipes be extended there, which now supports a separate gasometer, at heavy expense, and some risk of fire, for its own use. It is believed also, that this will be the most convenient and economical, as well as much the safest light that can be made. I recommend this subject to your favorable consideration.

The labors of the two Houses in the adoption of the Code, being not yet concluded, but drawing to a close, I have thought it proper at this time, to lay before you, the subjects embraced in this message, confining myself to those which require legislation at the present session. To ask for them, your respectful consideration, and to express the hope that the results of all your legislation, may redound to the best interests of the State.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, JOHN J. McRAE.
January 23d, 1857.